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(12) **United States Patent**
Hendricks

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(54) **ELECTRONIC BOOK
LIBRARY/BOOKSTORE SYSTEM**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

CA 2044574 12/1992

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(Continued)

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 1247 days.

Rawlins, "The New Publishing—Technology's impact on the publishing industry over the next decade", Nov. 12, 1991, pp. 1-65.*

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(21) Appl. No.: **09/722,742**

Primary Examiner—Yemane Mesfin

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Continuation of application No. 09/237,825, filed on Jan. 27, 1999, now abandoned, which is a division of application No. 08/336,247, filed on Nov. 7, 1994, now Pat. No. 5,986,690, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 07/991,074, filed on Dec. 9, 1992, and a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/160,194, filed on Dec. 2, 1993, now Pat. No. 5,990,927.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
G06F 15/16 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **709/229; 709/219**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 709/203,
709/217, 219, 232, 229, 212, 216, 226; 715/513,
715/528; 345/751, 776, 744, 745, 901
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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The invention, an electronic book selection and delivery system, is a new way to distribute books and other textual information to bookstores, libraries and consumers. The primary components of the system are a subsystem for placing text in a video signal format and a subsystem for receiving and selecting text that is placed in the video signal format. The system configuration for consumer use contains additional components and optional features that enhance the system, namely: (1) an operations center, (2) a video distribution system, (3) a home subsystem, including reception, selection, viewing, transacting and transmission capabilities, and (4) a billing and collection system. The operations center and/or video distribution points perform the functions of manipulation of text data, security and coding of text, cataloging of books, messaging center, and uplink functions. The electronic books may be provided to an intermediate point such as a library or a bookstore. From the library or bookstore, electronic books may be provided to consumers for viewing on the home subsystem. The library may store electronic books for lending on a file server. The library may incorporate security features to prevent unauthorized copying of the electronic books, such as including a time out feature that disables the electronic book after a specified period.

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12 Claims, 40 Drawing Sheets

